



Belville Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes May 14, 2025

Belville Parks & Recreation Board Members Present:

Vince Matthews, Vice-Chairman
Dr. Mark Wilde-Ramsing, Member
Rana LaBrunda, Member

Members Absent

None

Alternate Members Present

Nancy (Nia) Moore, Alternate

Staff:

Athina Williams, Town Manager
Jim Bucher, Director of Parks & Recreation
Ian McLeod, Event Coordinator
Brenda Hewlett, Secretary

Staff Absent:

None

Items - 1 AND 2 - CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews called the May 14, 2025, Belville Parks & Recreation Board Meeting to order at 6:04. p.m. A quorum was present.

Item # 3 – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION – Member Rana LaBrunda **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the agenda. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Item # 4– APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ACTION – Member Rana LaBrunda **MADE THE MOTION** to approve the Belville Parks and Recreation Board Regular Meeting Minutes from April 9, 2025. **VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.**

Item # 5- UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. BELVILLE RIVERWALK PARK UPDATE

1. Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher informed the Board that the awning for the Fun Time Ice Cream Stand was going well and installed the shell. He advised that he is working on several projects. Ice Peaks Coffee is doing well in the Park on Wednesday's and Thursday's from 7:00 am until 2:00 pm.
2. **DATE ON STORM RECOVERY/PARK REPAIR**

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher informed the board no storm recovery.

Item # 6 - NEW BUSINESS

a. UPCOMING EVENTS

Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews related to the board that there is a new app for new members. He also thanked Madylin Moore for joining us.



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1. Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews informed the board that Cindy Ruggiero had withdrawn her application, and Lynn Gavin had submitted her resignation.
2. Outreach and Event Coordinator Ian McLeod reported that Founder's Day went well with about 1400 people attending. There were 59 vendors and 10 Food Trucks, Face Painters, and Coastal Build-A-Buddy. Ian thanked Dr. Mark Wilde-Ramsing and the Rowing Club for their help in unloading vendors. He stated that there are 7 new vendors for upcoming events. Member Rana LaBrunda asked about rates for non-profits and was informed that Belville residents pay a reduced rate.
Alternate Nia Moore stated that the vendors were happy. Town Manager Athina Williams stated that the social media Team had a video of the event online just after the event. A motion was made for the Board of Commissioners to give a formal letter to the different entities involved for an impressive job during Founder's Day. The raffle donation of \$250.00 was given to Brunswick Senior Resources for their Meals-on-Wheels program. Additional volunteers will be needed to assist staff in Birthday years 49 and 50. Town Manager would like to get a count of Belville Residents that attend Founder's Day. A small handout could be given to Belville residents only.
3. Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher reported that the Easter Egg Scramble went well. There was a great crowd in attendance. Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews thanked Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher for being the Easter Bunny.
4. Parks and Recreation Director Jim Bucher reported that the Senior Fishing Day was attended by seven (7) residents of the Brunswick Cove Nursing Home. The residents caught small fish but enjoyed the event.
5. Secretary Brenda Hewlett reported that the Youth Fishing Day is ready to go. Brenda has to reach out to several vendors for the in-kind donations. Brenda asked for a motion to purchase larger rods for the senior fishing day. A motion was made by Mark Wilde-Ramsing to purchase 10 larger rods for the Senior Fishing Day and was seconded by Member Rana LaBrunda and the motion carried. We have 67 small rods and for the Youth Fishing Day in hand.
6. Outreach and Event Coordinator Ian McLeod informed the board about the summer movies. He gave each member a list of the movies that can be selected from. He asked that each member email him their list. Movies will be shown on the 3rd Friday night of each month. The movie dates are June 20th, July 18th, August 15th and September 19th. Member Rana LaBrunda made a motion to accept the movie dates, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Mark Wilde-Ramsing. The motion carried. He stated that he will get Brunswick County to spray the park for mosquitos and that we can spray as well. Highway 55 will be at all 4 movies. We are looking for a sponsor for the movies. Mimi and Papa's Gourmet Popcorn will sell popcorn for the movies and possibly be a sponsor. Member Rana LaBrunda asked about the board doing the popcorn. It was stated that we make a percentage of the profits from the vendors. She asked if we could sell candy and drinks, and we can. We will still do the VIP Seating Section.
7. Handouts of the seating chart were given to all members along with the After-Action Reports of the Easter Egg Scramble and the Senior Fishing Tournament.
8. Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews stated that the Rules of Procedure will be amended and given to the Town Attorney to review. It will then be given back to the Parks and Recreation Board and then recommended to send to the Board of Commissioners. Items to be amended are compensation, date and time of meetings, Elections, and spell out what role an alternate plays on the Board.

b. Discussion/or Recommendations to the Board of Commissioners

1. There are no recommendations for the Board of Commissioners.

ITEM # 7 - OTHER ITEMS AND REPORTS

- a. Chairperson
- b. Vice-Chairman



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c. **Member Dr. Mark Wilde-Ramsing**

d. **Member Rana LaBrunda**

e. **Alternate Nia Moore**

f. **Director Jim Bucher**

g. **Event and Outreach Coordinator** Ian McLeod reported that the Food Truck Rodeo is 85% done. He needs 5 volunteers for the dunk tank. He also needs someone for the cash tent. Member Rana LaBrunda agreed to work the Cash Tent and Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews will do the signage. There are 20 Food Trucks and 22 Vendors. Ian also reported that Memorial Day is on May 26, 2025. It will take place from 4-6 pm at the park with VFW 12196 officiating. Sweet Nectar is donating through Sponsorship half of the cost of the wreath to us.

h. **Staff And / Or the Commissioners** Town Manager thanked Former Member Cindy Ruggiero for her outstanding service to the Town of Belville.

ITEM # 8 – ADJOURNMENT

ACTION –Vice-Chairman Vince Matthews adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

Minutes compiled by Brenda K. Hewlett

SIGNED:

Vince Matthews, Vice-Chairman

ATTEST:

Brenda K. Hewlett, Secretary